

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 8-20 are pending in this application. Claims 21-26 are canceled by the present response without prejudice.

The present response is submitted to place the above-identified application in condition for allowance based on the indication of allowable subject matter in the outstanding Office Action.

More particularly, in the outstanding Office Action claims 8-20 are allowed and only claims 21-26 were rejected. As noted above claims 21-26 are canceled by the present response without prejudice, and thus only allowed claims 8-20 are pending in this application.

As only allowed claims are currently pending in this application, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and it is hereby respectfully requested that this case be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Eckhard H. Kuesters
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 28,870

Surinder Sachar
Registration No. 34,423

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)